

Abstract of the Disclosure

Roller drive units are used for conveying objects, in particular cargo containers, on a roller conveyor track of an aircraft. They comprise a drive motor, a planetary gear with an input connected to the drive motor and with a first as well as a second gear output. A drive roller is connected to the first gear output to propel the object and a lifting apparatus is connected to the second gear output to lift the drive roller out of a retracted resting position, in which the drive roller does not contact the object, into a raised operating position in which the drive roller can engaged with the object. A first brake is provided to slow down the drive roller and a second brake is provided to keep the lifting apparatus in position. To improve the traction characteristics and in particular to improve the force with which the drive roller can press against the object to be conveyed, the first and second brakes are constructed so as to be controllable.

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL 815 538 708 US  
Date of Deposit 11 April 2001  
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service  
"Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service  
under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and  
is addressed to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231  
Volanda Gray (Printed Name)  
Volanda Gray (Signature)